

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 3-SS-Y-26-22

Issued at: Fairbanks, Tuesday,
September 6, 2022

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Thursday, September 8,
2022

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Saturday,
December 31, 2022, unless superseded
by subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes all waters of the Yukon River drainage (excluding the Tanana River drainage) to sport fishing for chum and coho salmon.

All chum and coho salmon caught incidentally in the Yukon River drainage (excluding the Tanana River drainage) while fishing for other species may not be removed from the water and must be released immediately.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 73.010. (b)(2) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Thursday, September 8 through 11:59 p.m. Saturday, December 31, 2022:

5 AAC 73.010. Seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Yukon River Area.

(b)(2) salmon, other than king salmon: the bag and possession limit is 10 fish, with no size limit; sport fishing for chum and coho salmon is closed; chum or coho salmon may not be retained or possessed; chum or coho salmon must be released immediately; a person may not remove a chum or coho salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

Douglas Vincent-Lang
Commissioner

By delegation to: _____

Lisa Stuby
Area Management Biologist

DocuSigned by:

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JUSTIFICATION:

Estimated passage of coho salmon past the Pilot Station sonar through September 5, 2022 was 89,570, which is well below the median cumulative count of 141,925. This year's coho salmon run size is projected to be near 100,000 fish, which is well below the historical average of 233,000 fish. The closure of the coho salmon sport fishery is warranted throughout the entire Yukon River drainage, excluding the Tanana River, to ensure adequate spawning escapement. Chum salmon passage estimates at the Pilot Station Sonar continue to be substantially below historic averages for this time of year and this emergency order continues the sport fishery closure for chum salmon.

PREVIOUS EMERGENCY ORDERS AFFECTED: Emergency Order 3-CS-Y-5-22 closed sport fishing for chum salmon in the Yukon River drainage (excluding the Tanana River drainage) from May 1 through December 31 and is superseded by this emergency order.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region III Office of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, 1300 College Road, Fairbanks, AK 99701, (907) 459-7207.